- All cable diverse route to Europe from where onward extension to US is possible.

- Development of India as a hub for Africa and Far East.

- The landing at Cochin in India provides alternate traffic and restoration.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### Irregularities and extravagances involving Khadi Chief

157. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Khadi Chief quits posh Niti Bagh house" which appeared in the Delhi Age dated the 30th May, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General of India pointed out irregularities and extravagances involved in the deal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) : (a) to (b) Yes, Sir. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has hired a building for Camp Office-cum-Guest House at Niti Bagh, New Delhi against a rent of Rs. 99,500/- per month. In view of the limited utility of the Camp Office-cum-Guest House, the Government has directed KVIC to vacate the same.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.



1713 GIPMR/03—4